The Environmental Science and Policy Program at MSU is excited to announce the recipients of the ESPP Doctoral Recruitment Fellowship awards for 2015.

- **Caitlin Kirby** will pursue her doctoral degree as a member of the Department of Geological Sciences in the lab of Dr. Julie Libarkin. She received her bachelor’s degree in environmental biology and microbiology from MSU in 2013, and has since served in AmeriCorps.

- **Lin Liu** is joining the Department of Geological Sciences under the guidance of Dr. Bruno Basso. She will be studying Hydroecology. Previously she has studied at Sichuan University and State University of New York. She is receiving her masters degree in environmental geosciences from MSU this spring.

- **Judith Namanya**, originally from Uganda, assisted Assistant Professor Amber Pearson in the MSU Department of Geography with her research in that country and now intends to study the crucial linkages between the environment and human health. Judith received her masters of science degree in public health from Leeds University.

- **Rajiv Paudel** of Nepal will be studying human-natural food systems under Dr. Arika Ligmann-Zielinska in the Department of Geography. He was worked for environmental NGOs in Nepal for several years since receiving his masters degree in the United Kingdom in Ecology.

- **Mark Suchyta** began his PhD studies at Pennsylvania State University in Environmental Sociology. At MSU, he will join the Department of Sociology where he will engage in research on public concerns and attitudes about animal welfare. He has undergraduate degrees from the University of Michigan and Wayne State University.

- **Qiong Zhang** will also join the Department of Geography where she will investigate health geography issues, specifically maternal and child health and air pollution in her home country of China. She has dual master’s degrees from the University of Toledo in Geography and Planning and Public Administration.

ESPP annually offers multiple doctoral recruiting fellowships for students who will matriculate in the next fall semester. The goal of these one-year fellowships is to attract the strongest possible cohort of students to pursue a doctoral education focused on the environment.

While in the program, Doctoral students pursue a Ph.D. in one of MSU’s many existing doctoral programs that have an environmental focus. In addition, they complete the coursework for the Specialization in Environmental Science and Policy. The Specialization provides students with an understanding of the diverse disciplines brought to bear on contemporary environmental problems. It is designed to provide an understanding of how various disciplines conceptualize environmental issues and how scientific information can be brought to bear on environmental decision-making and environmental policy.